UI BULLETIN # 96

SUBJECT: **Information on Seat Belt Changes 2010 to 2011 and Identification Guide**

MODELS AFFECTED:
Chevrolet Express Vans 2500-3500 Series Only
GMC Savana Vans 2500-3500 Series Only

MODEL YEAR(S):
2010-2011

DATE: **03/22/2011**

This information is primarily intended for vehicle upfitters, however any service personnel may be able to benefit if there is a need to quickly identify the changes between 2010 and 2011 model year seat belt latch and buckle components

INTRODUCTION:

Information
The seat belt components used in the 2500/3500 series Express, Savana vans changed at the start of production with the 2011 model year. When removing seat belt systems during the upfitting process, please be sure to identify the model year vehicle they have been removed from for proper reinstallation later.

Recommendations/Instructions
2010 and 2011 seat belt components can be identified using the following pictorial guide whether on the shelf or installed in a vehicle.

Important: 2010 model year seat belt components and 2011 model year seat belt components should not be intermixed.

Overview of Complete Systems
The complete front seat belt system components are shown below. Please note the plastic ends of the retractors (1) are translucent green in the 2010 Delphi supplied system and black in the 2011 Autoliv supplied system. The retractor mount (2) on the 2010 system has a round hole in a single steel plate while the 2011 has an oval hole through two overlapping metal plates

Information on Seat Belt Changes

2010 Delphi Supplied Front Seat Belt System

2011 Autoliv Supplied Front Seat Belt System

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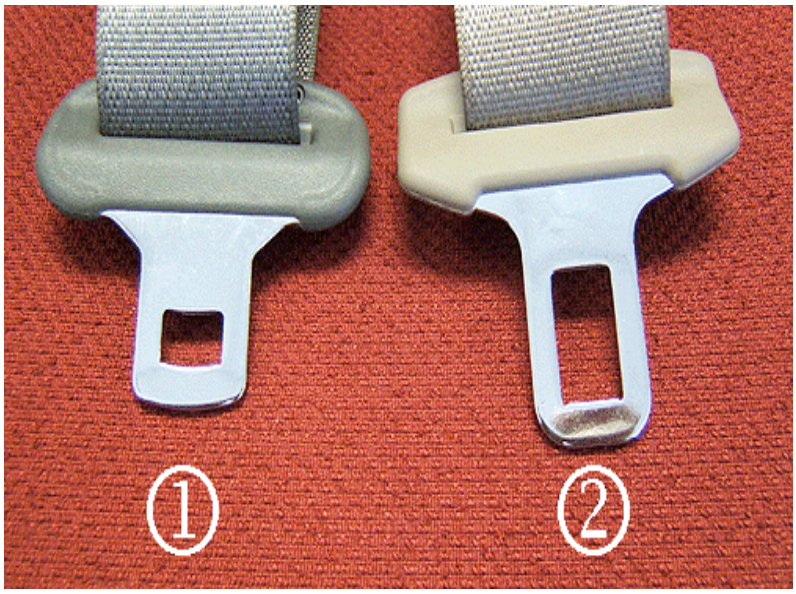
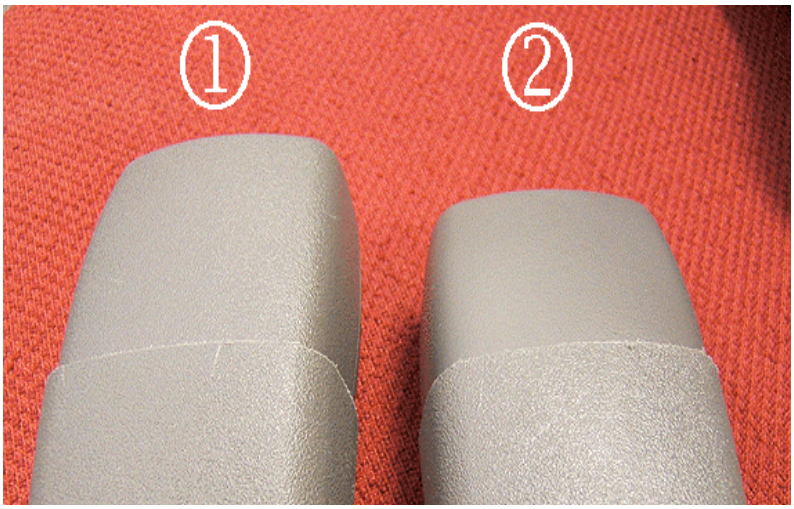
Identification of Installed Seat Belt Components

The latch plates appear physically different from 2010 to 2011. The 2010 latch (1) has a shorter center hole while the 2011 latch (2) is elongated as shown below.



The buckle side of the seat belt also features a slightly revised appearance. The 2010 system has a buckle housing (1) that protrudes further from the plastic sleeve compared to the shorter 2011 housing (2). A smoother texturing is also used on the 2011 buckle, which differs from that of the sleeve.



Important: The buckle side belt sleeve is not changed from 2010 to 2011 model vehicles. Another way of assuring both latch and buckle side components are of the same model year is to attempt to connect them.

Note: Confirming the latch / buckle fit (on each vehicle) after reinstallation is a best practice that assures correct parts usage.

Here is a 2011 seat belt properly connected. You can see the latch plate is held tightly to the buckle at the connection interface (1)

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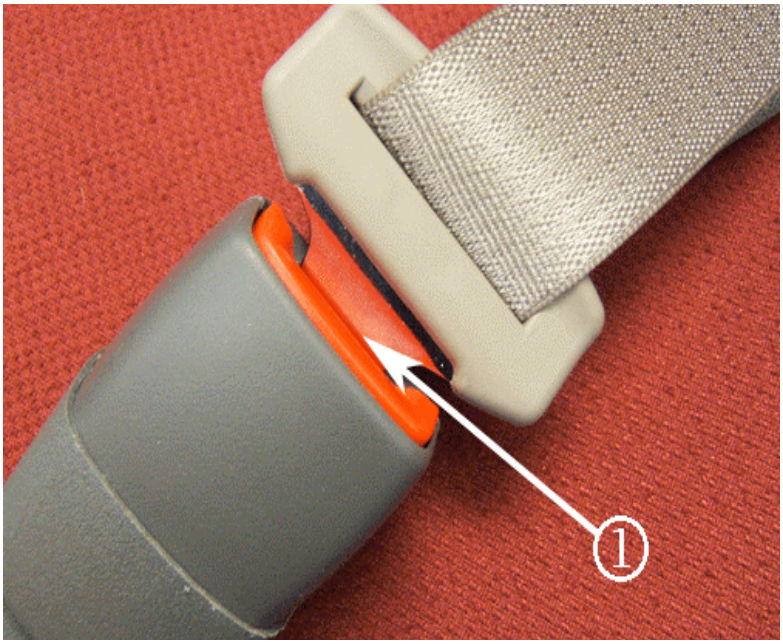
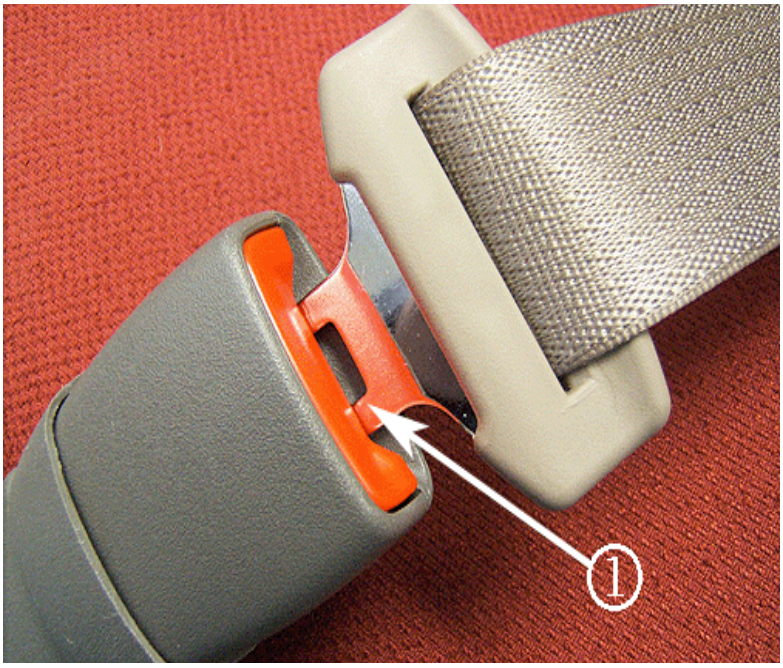
2011 Seat Belt System Properly Connected



In the next photo, a 2010 buckle is substituted and a 2011 latch is inserted. When connected, the latch will not retain as closely to the housing, and a gap (1) will be visible.

2011 Latch Connected to a 2010 Buckle



Note:
If a 2010 latch is attempted to be inserted into a 2011 buckle, no connection will be made. The latch is too short to reach the internal mechanism and the latch will immediately be ejected by spring tension.